



LINCOLN CHAFEE

U.S. SENATOR

RHODE ISLAND

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CHAFEE AMENDMENT COULD BRING \$30-40 MILLION FOR WARWICK STATION

Senate Highway Bill Would Allow RI to Shift Unused Funds to Intermodal Project

WARWICK, RI – U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee today met with state and local officials at the site of the proposed Warwick Intermodal Station. Chafee was proud to announce Senate passage of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Efficiency Act of 2004. The legislation includes a provision authored by Chafee that allows Rhode Island to shift existing unused federal funds to the Station Project, including construction of the proposed people mover between Warwick Station and TF Green Airport.

Senator Chafee's amendment to S. 1072 could provide between \$30 and 40 million, which was previously unavailable for use at Warwick Station.

"I am pleased that I was able to work with my Committee Chairman to include language in the bill for the Warwick Station Project," said Senator Chafee. When it is completed, it will be one of the first truly intermodal facilities in the country, combining Amtrak, the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority and TF Green Airport into one seamless transportation system."

Under the legislation, Rhode Island would receive \$1.224 billion through 2009 for construction and maintenance of highways and bridges. This is an increase of \$238 million, or 24.1 percent, from the levels received by Rhode Island during the previous six fiscal years, 1998 - 2003.

"It is vitally important to invest in our transportation infrastructure, ensuring that Rhode Islanders have safe and efficient means to move on our highways and transit systems. In addition, these critical dollars will create new construction jobs and boost the economic well being of our state."

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